



**National Park Service**  
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## **Gateway** News Release

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### **Proposed Personal Water Craft (PWC) Rules Published** **Public Comment Sought**

Two new, proposed sets of rules concerning the use of personal water craft (PWC) in National Park Service waters in the New York Metropolitan Area were published in the Federal Register today. This marks the beginning of a 60- day public comment period before the final rules are set for Gateway National Recreation Area's Jamaica Bay Unit in New York and Sandy Hook Unit in New Jersey.

Since 2002, as per the Code of Federal Regulations (36CFR3.24), the use of personal water craft has not been permitted within the National Park System unless it was found, on a case- by- case basis, that some level of use would not be in conflict with the purpose of the park or the proper management of its resources; this would be determined by an Environmental Assessment (EA). An EA was completed for Gateway NRA and finalized after public review in 2003. The draft regulations now being released for comment are based on that EA.

(continued)

For the Sandy Hook Unit rules, interested parties may submit comments, identified by the number RIN 1024- AD42, by any of the following methods:

- Federal rulemaking portal: **[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)**  
Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- E- mail the NPS at **[GATE\\_PWCCComments@louisberger.com](mailto:GATE_PWCCComments@louisberger.com)**  
Use RIN 1024- AD42 in the subject line.
- Mail or hand deliver to:  
**General Superintendent, Gateway National Recreation Area**  
**210 New York Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305**

For the Jamaica Bay Unit rules, interested parties may similarly submit comments, identified by the number RIN 1024- AD41, by any of the following methods:

- Federal rulemaking portal: **[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)**  
Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- E- mail the NPS at **[GATE\\_PWCCComments@louisberger.com](mailto:GATE_PWCCComments@louisberger.com)**  
Use RIN 1024- AD41 in the subject line.
- Mail or hand deliver to:  
**General Superintendent, Gateway National Recreation Area**  
**210 New York Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305**

The Staten Island Unit will continue to operate under the regulations published under 36CFR3.24. No changes are proposed for this unit of Gateway NRA.

Gateway encompasses the largest collection of natural systems, wildlife habitats, historic resources and outdoor recreational opportunities in the New York City/New Jersey metropolitan area. The park maintains, improves, and makes these resources and opportunities available to the public for inspiration, education and recreation. These areas include numerous sites of critical natural and cultural importance. Established with the express purpose of bringing the "National Park Service Experience" to the urban population, the park is truly the gateway to the National Park System for millions of people.

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